Before the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance

In the matter of:

Scott H. Thompson,

950 E. Paces Ferry Road N.E.

Suite 2300 Atlanta Plaza,

Atlanta, GA 30326-1385.

SCDOI File Number: 125179

Default Order Revoking All Licensing Privileges

This matter comes before me pursuant to a Letter of Allegation and Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing served, as required within S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-170 (2004), by the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance upon above named respondent, by both certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail on or about May 20, 2005.

By that letter, the respondent was informed of his right to request a public hearing upon the allegations of impropriety contained within the letter against him. Further, he was warned that his failure to make a timely, written request would result in my summary revocation of his license to do business as a non-resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina. Despite that warning, Scott H. Thompson has failed to respond to the Department's letter, On July 1, 2005, therefore, counsel for the Department filed an Affidavit of Default, and the entire matter was submitted directly to me for my summary decision based solely on the record.

The letter alleged, and I now find as fact, that while licensed to do business as a non- resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina, Mr. Thompson "had incurred into several fraudulent activities", which resulted in his employment termination by Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. S.C. Code Ann. § 38-43-130 (2004) provides: "The director or his designee may revoke or suspend an agent's license after ten day's notice...when it appears that an agent has violated this title or any regulation promulgated by the Department. Subsection (C)(8) specifically describes: "using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this State or elsewhere."

In accordance with my findings of fact, and considering Mr. Thompson's failure to avail himself of his opportunity to be heard, I now conclude, as a matter of law, that Scott H. Thompson did in fact "forge customers' signatures on forms which are required as part of the Life Insurance application process", and therefore all of his insurance licensing privileges should be revoked.

This administrative disciplinary order is a public record subject to the disclosure requirements of the State of South Carolina's *Freedom of Information Act*, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-40-10, *et seq.* (1991 and 2004). Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit or to deprive any person of any private right of action under the law. Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit, in any manner, the criminal jurisdiction of any law enforcement or judicial officer. Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit the statutory duty, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-110 (4) (2004), of the Director of Insurance, exercised either directly or through the Department of Insurance, to "report to the Attorney General or other appropriate law enforcement officials criminal violations of the law relative to the business of insurance or the provisions of this title which he considers necessary to report."

It is therefore ordered that Mr. Thompson's license to transact business as a non-resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina be, and is hereby, revoked, and that no license, issued through the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance is to be issued to him.

It is further ordered that a copy of this order be transmitted to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners for distribution to its current member states and to each insurer for which Scott H. Thompson is currently licensed, through the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance, as a non-resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina.

This order takes effect upon the date of my signature below.

Eleanor Kitzman Kozman

Director

Columbia, South Carolina

Before the State of South Carolina **Department of Insurance**

In the matter of:

SCDOI File Number: 125179

Scott H. Thompson 950 E. Paces Ferry Road N.E. Suite 2300 Atlanta Plaza Atlanta, GA 30326-1385.

Affidavit of Default

Personally appeared before me Joseph D. McMaster, who, being duly sworn, stated that at all times relevant to this Affidavit of Default he was an attorney representing the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance in this administrative action. He further stated the following:

The Department served notice on Scott H. Thompson at the address detailed above, by a Letter of Allegation and Notice of Opportunity for a Public Hearing that the Department would request the Director of Insurance to summarily revoke his license to act as a resident insurance producer within the State of South Carolina in thirty days. The Department served the Notice, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-170 (Supp. 2004), by "depositing it in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the last known address of the person and registered with the return receipt requested." That Notice further informed Mr. Thompson of his opportunity, within thirty days, to request in writing a public hearing.

The United States Postal Services attempted to effect service of the Notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail, at least on or about May 20, 2005, at the last known address. Our letter was returned with a stamp noting: "Not deliverable as Addressed/unable to forward" - subject had moved out of this location. Mr. Thompson has made no request for a public hearing or any other response to the Notice. The time in which to do so has expired. He is now in default.

Associate General Counsel

Sworn to and subscribed before me This / day of $\sum k_{y}$, 2005.

South Carolina Department of Insurance Post Office Box 100105

Columbia, South Carolina 29202-3105

(803) 737-6132

Steven R. DuBois

Notary Public for the State of South Carolina

My Commission Expires May 10, 2009